Be It Remembered that the Greene County

Board of Commissioners met in Regular

Session on Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 9:30 a.m. in the Commissioners’ Room on

the third floor of the Courthouse.

The meeting was called to order by Nathan Abrams.

The Pledge of Allegiance opened the meeting.

Present were Nathan Abrams, Rick Graves, and Ed Michael.

**Re: Minutes**

Ed Michael moved, and Rick Graves seconded, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on February 4, 2025. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Claims**

Ed Michael moved, and Rick Graves seconded, to approve the claims submitted for Tuesday, February 18, 2025. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Payroll**

Ed Michael moved, and Rick Graves seconded, to approve the payroll submitted for Friday, February 21, 2025. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Suspension of Commissioners’ Meeting**

Nathan Abrams suspended the Commissioners’ meeting to conduct a Public Hearing.

**Re: Public Hearing -Greene County Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Project**

County Attorney Marvin Abshire started the public hearing on February 18, 2025, at 9:35 am in the Commissioners’ room of the Greene County Courthouse.

Abshire stated that the public hearing was advertised in compliance with Indiana Code 5-3-1, in the Greene County Daily World on February 4th, 2025.

The purpose of the meeting is to receive comments or concerns regarding the County’s Owner Occupied Rehabilitation Project that took place in unincorporated areas of the County.

Abshire stated many facts about the project that include:

* The project was able to provide assistance to six housing units.
* The total grant of Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority was $128,317.43.
* SIDC provided the County with a USDA Rural Development HPG Grant in the amount of $59,784.86, that served as matching funds for the project.
* The services provided included heating/cooling, windows, roofing, plumbing, and electrical, etc....
* All services were performed by two Greene County Contractors.
* All homes have been completed.
* Each housing unit will be inspected by a third-party inspector controlled by Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority. This will take place within a couple of weeks. Any identified deficiencies will be taken care of at that time by the contractor, then reinspected by SIDC.

There were no comments or concerns expressed during the hearing. Abshire went on to explain the process of the project. The grant was originally going to assist ten homes, but at the time that the applications were submitted, there were only 8 applications on file. The project ended up assisting five homeowners with IHCDA funds and one home funded with USDA Rural Development funds. The project was ready to move forward, but some of the applicants failed to submit all the needed information, leaving seven eligible houses. However, with the deadline of December 20, 2024, one contractor indicated that he could not complete the home by that date. In fact, the money had to be applied for by the week of December 7, 2024. The program ended with only six houses being renovated. As a result, money was left over that will need to de-obligated

Abshire asked for any other comments.

With no other comments, Ed Michael moved, and Rick Graves seconded, to close the public hearing. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Resume Regular Session**

**Re: Housing Grant De-obligation of Funds**

Rick Graves moved, and Ed Michael seconded, to de-obligate the remaining CDBG Owner Occupied Repair funds totaling $121,682.57. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Greene County GCAS (Surplus Vehicle Bid Opening)**

Commissioner Abrams opened the sole bid received for the surplus 2016 Ford used by the Greene County Ambulance Service. The bid was from Kyle and Chelsea Brown. The bid was in the amount of $3,300.00.

Rick Graves moved, and Ed Michael seconded, to accept the bid, subject to approval from the EMS Board. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Greene County Clerk (Microvote Voting Machines Upgrade)**

Clerk Jamie Thompson requested approval of an agreement to upgrade the components within Greene County’s voting machines. Thompson stated that the Council has approved the budget for the first half of the payment in the amount of $89,600.00. The agreement includes all new components, maintenance, training, and any assistance they may need on election day. The total agreement is for $179,200.00, payable in two equal annual installments in 2025 and 2026.

Rick Graves moved, and Ed Michael seconded, to approve the agreement between Greene County, Indiana and Microvote General Corporation. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Greene County Highway (Wheel Tax Paving Bids)**

Rick Graves moved, and Ed Michael seconded, to approve the advertisement for the Wheel Tax Paving bids. Highway Superintendent Roger Hamilton stated that the bids are ready to be sent out. The sealed bids will be due back to the County no later than 9:00 AM on March 18, 2025. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Discussion Item- Travelers’ Risk Control and Motor Vehicle Records Policy**

Rick Graves moved, and Ed Michael seconded, to table the decision of the Motor Vehicle Policy until the next meeting on March 4th, 2025.

Rick Graves stated that he still doesn’t feel very good about enforcing the policy.

First Security Insurance Agent Mark Babbs stated the MVR is not for every employee, only the employees that drive for the County, including personal use. Babbs stated the driver records must be checked annually. Babbs also stated that every insurance company requires MVRs to be performed.

Marvin Abshire stated that this is already county policy, in that all Greene County’s job descriptions state the employee must have a valid Indiana Drivers License and must have a demonstrated safe driving record.

The policy would examine a 5-year driving history. If a person has more than three violations within that 5-year time frame, they would be put on a watch and may not have to be restricted from driving for the county.

Sheriff George Dallaire stated that his department already runs driving records for any employee driving for the department, and an AVL system is in each of the vehicles at the Sheriff’s Department that tracks location, speed, and other factors.

Mark Babbs stated that the insurance company would be the one making the final decision. If the County does not implement the policy, the insurance policy would be might not be renewed. Babbs stated that his office could help with MVRs for employees. The full name, date of birth, and driver’s license number would be needed for each driver. Currently, there is a $10.00 charge for each MVR, but Babbs stated that he would reach out to the underwriters to see if he could get several MVRs free for the County and then the County would pay for the remainder of the employees. Employees would need to sign authorization forms for this as well. Babbs stated that he will gather more information from the underwriters and be back at the next meeting.

The decision needs to be made soon, as the County’s policy with Travelers renews June 8th, 2025. Motion passed 3-0.

**Re: Commissioner Comments**

Ed Michael moved, and Rick Graves seconded, to approve payment request #4 from K.W.K Construction for the Linton EMS Facility. Motion passed 3-0.

There being no further business to come before the board, Ed Michael moved, and Rick Graves seconded, to adjourn. Motion passed 3-0.

\_ \_\_\_\_\_

Nathan L. Abrams Edward L. Michael Rick Graves

\_\_\_\_\_

Heather Perry, Auditor